**CLASSIFICATION** 25X1A2g 25X1A9a Approved For Release 1999/09/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0026005 INFORMA CD NO. COUNTRY DATE DISTR. 14 APR 1949 Venezuela NO. OF PAGES 1 SUBJECT Arrest of Revolutionary Suspects PLACE 25X1A6a NO. OF ENCLS. ACQUIRED DATE OF INF SUPPLEMENT TO

1. In an effort to uncover members of an underground movement which is working for the overthrow of the present military junta, the police have arrested several suspects and are making plans to arrest others.

REPORT NO.

- 2. One Eusebio Dirin Gonzalez was arrested in March and his house searched by the police. Two mimeographed letters, with the alleged signature of Romulo Betancourt written in, were discovered. One letter was addressed to the "Workers of Venezuela" urging all workers to cease work, to develop sabotage activities wherever possible, and to await the day of retaliation. The second letter, dated 3 January 1949, was addressed to the "Members and Comrades of the AD," and stated that an agreement had been reached between the leaders of the Accion Democratica (AD) and the Union Republicana Democratica Party (URD). Members of the AD are ordered to join the URD as that party will take over and will issue orders for the continuance of "the struggle."
- 3. Dirin Gonzalez, reported to be a member of the AD and a member of the Gormunist-controlled Sindicato de Trabajadores Autobuseros del Distrito Federal, confessed during the police interrogation that he had heard of an affiliation by the AD and the URD with the Communist Party.
- 4. The police are preparing to arrest Jovito Villalba and other leaders of the URD, but have not as yet enough evidence against them. They hope to find the necessary incriminating evidence when they have found and arrested one Hugo Soto Socorro\*\* for whom an arrest warrant has been issued. Early in March the Caracas police received a request from the police in Maracaibo to find Hugo Soto Socorro, whom they described as president of a labor union and a prominent member of the Communist Party. The Maracaibo police reported that he was missing and that he was wanted for activities against the national security.

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Comments. \*It is the firm belief of the police that these letters actually were composed by Betancourt and they are therefore guarding them carefully.

\*\*One Hugo Soto Socorro was made a member of the National Directive Council of Federetrol at the second General Assembly in Caracas in May 1948.

